

Ottawa Police Service Update to the Community
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 - 1:30 p.m.

(...)

of tickets given, arrests made and other enforcement measures taken to date

Working with Ohio Police, were able to identify and arrest hoaxer who was calling in fake threats

Incident yesterday where officers were swarmed by protesters – under investigation

We seized and towed vehicles

We identified to the City our need for additional 1,800 personnel to help address the situation

Working with children's aid society as up to 100 trucks with children in them.

Question period

? to Bell: Injuries to officers? **Bell:** no major injuries to this point - minor injuries have been sustained

? to Bell: Heard that many trucks have children in them and that CAS are involved? **Bell:** of great concern to Police - exposure to noise, carbon monoxide, hygiene, inability to shower... - not planning any enforcement at this time - will let CAS look into this

? to Bell: How much difficulty does it cause to police when people bring water in gas cans? **Bell:** adds a layer of logistical complexity - identifies a level of sophistication demonstrators to subvert police efforts

? to Bell: Several vehicles which are parked downtown have been immobilized. How does that affect the ability to start to remove the vehicles? What are next steps? When? **Bell:** immobilizing of vehicles is of extreme concerns - brings about many layers of complexity to dismantling the occupation - size of vehicles adds another layer of complexity

? to Bell: It was said you need 1800 more personnel. Does OPS have the legal authority to end this protest? **Bell:** everything is on the table - we are looking at several legal avenues - we will use everything we current have and look into anything else

? to Bell: Is there an updated timeline [for the end of the occupation]? Through this weekend? **Bell:** as soon as possible - we never identified a timeline- we work everyday to end this occupation as safely as possible

? to Bell: How many heavy tow trucks does the OPS/City have? **Bell:** continue to work with city and local tow truck companies - also looking in other cities and municipalities

? to Bell: People are walking around jerry cans filled with water. What is the situation with fuel concerns? **Bell:** we don't have "A" strategy; we have a multi-prong strategy - if you are caught carrying jerry cans, you could be stopped, searched and potentially charged - we will do everything to disrupt and deter these people from staying in your city

National Media

? to Bell: You say you have a strict enforcement of no fuel - we've see full wheelbarrows being moved right by police officers that did nothing - they said the cans could be filled with water so they can't do anything **Bell:** must cut off flow of fuel in the area - the flow of fuel is coming through different ways - there were several seizures and arrests yesterday - we need to have the correct number of officers to be able to do the enforcement job we need to do

? to Bell: Why not remove protesters and have their vehicles impounded? **Bell:** looking at all sorts of options to have people leave on their own or with assistance of police

? to Bell: Residents have concerns regarding the alleged arson. Is it in connection with the trucker protest? **Bell:** images captured - investigative teams assigned to the file - trying to identify people involved - don't have update now - creating great tension in the community - no link to date to trucker protest - meeting today of building residents, councillor and Ottawa Police

? to Bell: Government not prepared to talk to protestors - what will they get out of this? **Bell:** we have the cooperation of the OPP, the RCMP and police services across Ontario - thanks to all policing partners - moving forward, we continue to have fruitful dialogue with demonstrators - have liaison team who speak with people at head of demonstration - over 1300 traffic violations were given out today - criminal charges, vehicle charges - peaceful, progressive negotiation

? to Bell: Got about 1800 officers. You say you need more officers. If the injunction to have vehicles removed were to pass, would you have enough officer to do the job? **Bell:** We do need 1800- different kinds of resources: investigative, public order, legal... - we are committed to ending this occupation quickly

? to Bell: Staging areas are used by protesters. Confederation Park staging area has been dismantled. There is still one at the ball park. Are there other staging areas? **Bell:** we continue work with police partners to identify staging areas - will actively shut them down because they contribute to the continuation of the occupation

? to Bell: How's the mood among the officers? Morale? Are the additional 1800 resources considered a boost? **Bell:** members are very tired and work really hard to try to take back

portions of the city - they work hard in cold weather and difficult situations - they find it challenging - morale is challenge - they work day in and day out in order to keep the city safe - everything they do is for the safety and security of the residents of Ottawa - Bell proud of the work they do every single day

Comment from **Ayotte**: Wants everyone to know that the City is doing everything it can to help the police - they want this over with - they are engaging all levels of governments to do so